

Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 H-02 AID-05 SR-02

ORM-01 OPR-02 A-01 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SCS-03

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O R 150833Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9898

BNFO RUKOSP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 4705

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 2682

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF VN MY

SUBJ: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: A) KL 2560 B) STATE 107160

1. VESSEL REPORTED IN REF A IDENTIFIED AS LCU PURCHASED FROM US MILITARY, VIETNAM AND DOCUMENTED BY AMEMBASSY SAIGON WITH CERTIFICATE OF AMERICAN OWNERSHIP. OWNER/OPERATOR IS A. KELLY SHELTON, U.S. CITIZEN WHO INFORMED EMBASSY THAT VESSEL UNDER USAID CHARTER AND WAS ENGAGED IN REFUGEE EVACUATION UNDER ORDERS USAID AND MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND.

2. VESSEL HAS THIRTEEN (13) VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ABOARD WHO ARE CONFINED BY MALAYSIAN AUTHORITIES. SHELTON ONLY PERMITTED ASHORE AFTER WE RELAYED AMBASSADOR'S PERSONAL GUARANTEE SHELTON WOULD RETURN TO VESSEL AND TAKE IT OUT OF MALAYSIA. AUTHORITIES OVERCAUTIOUS, BEING AFRAID HE WILL LEAVE REFUGEES TO BECOME MALAYSIAN PROBLEM. GROUP CONSIST OF TWO FAMILY UNITS AS FOLLOWS: ONE ADULT MALE, TWO ADULT FEMALES AND TEN CHILDREN. ACCORDING TO SHELTON ONE FAMILY WISHES TO GO TO FRANCE, THE OTHER MOST LIKELY WILL GO TO TAIWAN AS SPOUSE/ HUSBAND WHO ALSO ABOARD IS TAIWANESE.

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3. SHELTON PLANNED TO PROCEED TO SINGAPORE AND OFF-LOAD

REFUGEES. HE, HOWEVER, UNAWARE UNTIL NOW OF SINGAPORE GOVT POSITION AND RECENT ACTION CONCERNING REFUGEES THERE. AS VESSEL CANNOT KEEP REFUGEES ABOARD INDEFINITELY EMBASSY PROPOSES FOLLOWING SOLUTION: SEEK PERMISSION FOR REFUGEES TO LEAVE VESSEL EITHER MALAYSIA OR SINGAPORE (THERE NO TAIWAN AUTHORITIES HERE; SINGAPORE HAS TAIWAN TRADE MISSION), IN ORDER TO CONTACT FRENCH AND TAIWANESE AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR ENTRY INTO THESE COUNTRIES. THIS WILL REQUIRE EMBASSY GUARANTEE OF ULTIMATE USG RESPONSIBILITY PER REF B (REFUGEES ON U.S.-FLAG VESSELS) SHOULD ACCEPTANCE BY THESE COUNTRIES NOT BE FORTHCOMING. IN ORDER TO PROCEED WITH THIS COURSE OF ACTION EMBASSY WILL REQUIRE 1) CONFIRMATION OF USG RESPONSIBILITY, AND 2) PAROLE AUTHORIZATION FOR ALL THIRTEEN (13). IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT PAROLE WILL BE UTILIZED AS LAST RESORT MEASURE SHOULD ALL ELSE FAIL.

4. REFUGEES IN POSSESSION SUFFICIENT FUNDS AND REQUIRE NO RPT NO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

5. REFUGEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NGUYEN KIM KHANH
TRUONG THI NGOC ANH
NGUYEN QUOC HUNG
NGUYEN THI XUAN DAO
NGUYEN QUOC DAO
NGUYEN THI XUAN PHUONG
NGUYEN THI XUAN LAN
HO-FONG
DIEP-TO-NU
HO-VI-BANG
HO-VI-CUONG
HO-VI-SAM
HO-VI-NGUYEN
HO-VI-HUNG.
UNDERHILL

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Draft Date: 15 MAY 1975
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: SREF, VN, MY, VS, (SHELTON, A KELLY)
To: STATE SINGAPORE
Type: TE
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